

# Chthamalus proteus

## Caribbean barnacle

#### Threat scores

- 1. Ecological impact
  - Fouling species; spatial competition with other native and nonnative species in high intertidal zones likely
- 2. Invasive potential
  - A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range
  - Now common on many ship and barge hulls in Hawaii, and on some which travel throughout the Pacific
  - It seems only a matter of time until this barnacle further invades the Pacific region
  - Larvae unlikely to survive long-term transport in ballast water
- 3. Geographic extent
  - Locally patchy

#### Geography and Habitat

- 1. Native: Gulf of Mexico to Trinidad and northeast Brazil
- 2. Introduced: Hawai'i, Guam
- 3. Habitats
  - Intertidal zones, fouling communities, benthic
  - Inhabits the high or supra-tidal zones of protected harbors and embankments, growing on pilings and other surfaces
  - Commonly seen growing above the water line on ships' hulls

#### **Invasion Pathways**

- 1. Hull/Surface fouling
- 2. Ballast water and sediments

### Non-Native Locations

- 1. 123- Mariana Islands
- 2. 152- Hawaiian Islands

#### Sources

- 1. Molnar, Jennifer et al. 2008. Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity. Frontiers in ecology and the environment. Vol. 6, No. 9, pp. 485-492.
- 2. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment
- 3. http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/basch/uhnpscesu/htms/npsainvr/images/chthamal/UtxChtxproteus7.jpg

